

FORM B - BUILDING

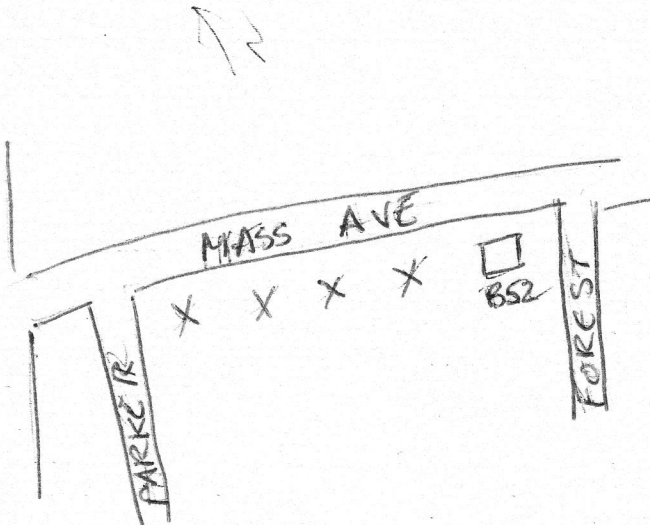
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| In Area no. | Form no. |
| B | 96 |



Lexington
SS 1984 Mass. Ave.
Nathan Monroe-Joel Viles
House
 nt use residence
 nt owner _____
 iption: C. 1820
 irce Federal

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric clapboard
brick sided half exposed
 Outbuildings (describe) shed in rear.
 Other features Main block: 5 bays wide, 1
deep, center entrance; foundation -granite
block in front, brick along sides

Altered _____ Date _____
 Moved yes Date c. 1900

5. Lot size: (from lot SW of 1st Parish)

One acre or less x Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 75'
 Approximate distance of building from street 25'

6. Recorded by E.W.Reinhardt
 Organization Lex. Hist. Com.
 Date 12/75

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) owned by [illegible]

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Aboriginal | _____ | Conservation | _____ | Recreation | _____ |
| Agricultural | _____ | Education | _____ | Religion | _____ |
| Architectural | _____ | Exploration/ settlement | _____ | Science/ invention | _____ |
| The Arts | _____ | Industry | _____ | Social/ humanitarian | _____ |
| Commerce | _____ | Military | _____ | Transportation | _____ |
| Communication | _____ | Political | _____ | | |
| Community development | _____ | | | | |

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Descrip cont: Main door - sidelights to bottom panel level. Heavy projecting lintel over door; attractive cornice treatment over door.

Windows 6x6, symmetrically placed; two chimneys along rear eave line.

Dependencies: North side - 2 story ell, double pitch roof at right angles to roof of main block; entrance in ell with flush boarded covered porch; ell is three bays wide, windows 6x6. One story ell attached, double pitch roof on axis with two story ell; entrance door with wide lintel over door, two windows 6x6 (serves as office space.)

South side - ell extends to south beyond main block, low chimney at eave line, ell joined by one story addition, also with chimney.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Form No:

96

Property Name: 1984 Massachusetts Ave

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

This house was formerly occupied (after 1850) by Joel Viles (b. 1793, d. 1873 -- see Hudson, Volume II, p. 720). He represented Lexington in the State Convention of 1853 to revise state constitution and also he was a selectman for ten years. Before living here, he kept the Bull Tavern (or Viles Tavern) at the junction of Marrett Road and Marrett Street, which he operated from 1820 until after 1850. (See Proceedings of the Lexington Historical Society, Volume I; also archives of the Lexington Historical Society [reminiscences of Everett M. Mulliken].)

In the 1930s these premises were operated as a tearoom, and in the 1940s and 1950s as an antiques shop by the Fosters.

Tradition says that in the early 1800s the owner (a Mr. Scott?) was carrying on a fur dressing business here and also using the underground structure (still existing) as a potting shed.

Deeds to the property can be traced to Nathan Munroe, March 23, 1813 (212-101).

For many years in the mid-1800s it was a double house.

(Source: see acc. #6642 in the archives of the Lexington Historical Society.)

In the early 1900s until his death in 1921, Albert S. McDonald lived here and raised flowers and plants for his retail florist shop in Boston (Temple Place). His greenhouses were behind the present house.

S. Lawrence Whipple, 1984

Staple to Inventory form at bottom